Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Today, older South Dakotans are living longer and healthier lives; and,

Whereas, Older Americans are valuable members of our society who enhance our communities and personal lives; and,

Whereas, The increasing number of baby boomers reaching traditional retirement age highlights the need for increased support of older adults; and,

Whereas, Our older citizens of today and tomorrow promise to be among the most active and involved older adult populations in our nation's history; and,

Whereas, It is the responsibility of this and all U.S. communities to work collaboratively to address older adults' unique health and long-term care challenges; and,

Whereas, It is crucial that communities modernize systems of care to help empower older Americans and give them more control over their own lives; and,

Whereas, Communities can improve older citizens' overall quality of life by helping them make behavioral changes in their lifestyles that can reduce the risk of disease, disability, and injury; obtain the tools they need to make informed decisions about, and gain better access to, existing health and long-term care options in their communities; have more options to avoid placement in nursing homes and remain at home as long as possible:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Tenth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Judy A. Larson, Exec. Asst.

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State